

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

16 NOV. 1961
~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. Albania

a) [redacted] since late September the Albanians have made several efforts to obtain French and Italian credits.

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b) [redacted] during early November Chinese officials in Tirana enjoyed unrestricted movement and that Chinese technicians were arriving in increasing numbers.

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c) Ambassador Thompson, commenting on the Greek proposal that the West should help Albania in this time of need, argues that the Chinese are stuck with supporting Albania, doing so will add to Sino-Soviet tension and we should therefore let Hoxha stew in his Stalinist juice.

d) Security and mobilization measures continue. While these undoubtedly reflect the regime's apprehension over some Moscow-inspired move against it we think they are also designed to galvanize popular support.

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2. West Germany

a) Adenauer has told Ambassador Dowling of his "annoyance" with Kroll over his talk with Khrushchev, but said he appreciated Kroll's abilities and the relationship he has developed with Khrushchev.

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3. South Vietnam

Most of a thirty-man South Vietnamese reconnaissance unit--one of several in the southern Laos-Vietnam border area--was captured on Saturday by a Vietnamese Communist unit near Attoupeu in southern Laos. Hanoi and Peiping may be inhibited by not wanting to admit the presence of Vietnamese Communist in Laos, but they may still use the incident to bolster their propaganda charges that South Vietnam is interfering in Laotian affairs.

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4. Soviet nuclear tests newly detected

a) Two previously undetected very low yield, high altitude nuclear detonations of 21 and 27 October near Sary Shagan were probably associated with the Soviet anti-missile program, although we doubt that the nuclear devices were carried by anti-missile missiles. b) We have also determined that there was a previously undetected low yield test near Novaya Zemlya on 4 November--shortly after a [redacted] test which we did detect.

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5. Dominican Republic

a) The two Trujillo brothers returned yesterday from Bermuda. President Balaguer says he will resign if this means a reversal of policy.

b) We are not sure of Ramfis' role or intentions. We know he has been under strong family pressure to return to old line Trujillo rule. He has also told Balaguer he intends to resign.

c) If Ramfis and Balaguer both resign, a military takeover is almost certain, but we don't think such a regime could last long in the face of local and Hemispheric opposition.

d) Prior to the unexpected return of the Trujillo brothers, Dominican government news media had reacted enthusiastically to the US statement recommending a partial lifting of OAS sanctions. [redacted]

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NOTES

- A. 50X1
- Nasir is seeking 50X1
control over the Free Yemeni Movement of exiles who want to
set up a republic. 50X11
- B. Singapore seems ripe for a possible outbreak of violence within the next few days. More strikes are scheduled and tensions now prevalent may be exacerbated by the Prime Minister's presentation to the Assembly of the proposed scheme to merge Singapore with Malaya and British Borneo territories. British and Singapore officials think any rioting can be contained.
- C. A meeting of the Warsaw Pact, or of its political committee, may be coming up next week. Most likely agenda items would appear to be: Albania and the Berlin-German problem.

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WATCH COMMITTEE CONCLUSIONS--15 November 1961

On the basis of findings by its Watch Committee, the United States Intelligence Board concludes that:

No Sino-Soviet bloc country intends deliberately to initiate direct military action in the immediate future.

Southeast Asia: There have been no material changes in the situations in South Vietnam and Laos.

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE